



OESD Head Start / ECEAP / Early Head Start  
Exposure Notice

Date:

To: All Parents

From: Your Child's Classroom

Subject: **CONJUNCTIVITIS (pink eye)**

Your child may have been exposed to conjunctivitis. Please watch for signs of it in the next 1 to 3 days.

**Appearance** Watery reddened eye which feels irritated. Eyelid may be swollen and child may complain of itching, pain, and sensitivity to light. There may be a yellow sticky mucous discharge. Eyelids may be stuck together in the mornings.

**Cause** Virus and/or bacteria.

**Spread** Through contact with discharge from the eye or respiratory passages or through contaminated fingers or personal articles such as eye make-up.

**Treatment** Follow doctor's recommendations. Bacteria-caused conjunctivitis will need an antibiotic.

**Return to Class** Follow doctor's recommendations. Children with bacterial conjunctivitis must be kept home until 24 hours after beginning antibiotics. Children with viral conjunctivitis must be kept home until purulent (pus) discharge is gone.

**Prevention** Frequent handwashing.

If you have questions, please contact your classroom's Family/Health Advocate, the Health Program Manager 360-478-6878, or the Kitsap Public Health District Communicable Disease Nurses at 360-728-2235.

*If staff have concerns about a child's ability to safely return to class, we reserve the right to request a note from the child's health care provider.*